

CIVIL AIR PATROL
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WISCONSIN WING SUPPLEMENT 3
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COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT

INTER SQUAD RADIO (ISR) OPERATIONS

CAPR 100-1, Volume 1, dated 1 August 1996, is supplemented as follows:

The purpose of this supplement is to provide guidance and information on implementation of Inter squad radio (ISR) operations within the Wisconsin Wing Radio Communications System. More formal guidance will be published in regulatory form from national headquarters.

1. General. For several years now the need for a low cost alternative for close Range communications support has been apparent to all. The federal community has found a Solution. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Family Radio Service. (FRS) band happens just a short distance (spectrum wise) from a large DoD band. This band of frequencies, which is used for a variety of air, ground and space systems. Federal frequency managers have cleared 14 channels within the DoD band near FRS for a federal version of the service.

2. Application of ISR to CAP Operations. ISR will be used to augment, not replace, our primary communications systems. Because of its low transmitter power and short range, it will not be effective for many mission coordination needs. But what it will provide is good short range support (1 mile or less under most circumstances) for applications such as intra-team safety communications for ground teams; coordination communications for mission base, flight line, convoys; and support for special activities such as air shows, fundraisers or encampments

3. Frequency Management. ISR has been opened to all DoD agencies. For frequency management purposes, CAP is a DoD agency and is therefore eligible to use ISR. Frequency management coordination has been completed and we are approved for use of the ISR frequencies

4. Shared Spectrum Management. Everyone using ISR must remember that these are military frequencies, which we have been given the privilege of using. That does not mean our operations are Secondary to military operations. All users are equal, and all normal rules of use for CAP frequencies apply.

5. Unit Radio Authorization

a. Application. Station authorization certification requirements for ISR radios and Callsigns are the same as our existing radio communications systems. All standard radio operating procedures will be used at all times.

b. An ROA is required. The use and operation of ISR radios requires a Radio Operator Authorization (ROA) card CAPF 76.

6. Acquisition logistics.

a. Radio acquisitions. The wing director of communications is the primary contact for acquisition of ISR radios. CAP has also been added to the list of federal agencies to which vendors can sell the radio to at the government price. Direct contact with equipment vendors is not authorized.

b. Funding. Funds will be forwarded in check format to wing headquarters with a memo on the check of "ISR Purchase and unit name" Purchase orders will not Initiate until the check has cleared wing headquarters

c. Individual Acquisition. At this time, there is no source for individuals to purchase ISR radios. All individuals desiring to purchase ISR radios will be reminded that ISR radios operate on federal frequencies and they will not be allowed to use the radio outside of CAP.

d. Future acquisition resources. The CAP Supply Depot is researching the possibility of a lower-cost ISR alternative from a different manufacturer. Information will be released immediately as it becomes available.

7. ISR radio Operational Restrictions.

a. Airborne use of ISR Prohibited. ISR may not be used while airborne. Further restrictions may come as DoD publishes more definition of the rules.

b. Equipment modifications. No one has been authorized to make or have made, any modification to an ISR radio unit. Any modification internal or external is prohibited. You may not attach any external antenna, power amplifier, or other apparatus to an ISR radio. There are no current exceptions to this rule and attaching any such apparatus to an ISR unit cancels the type acceptance

certification and voids everyone's authority to operate the unit in the ISR band. Existing FRS radios are not capable of reaching the ISR band. Other radios that may be capable reaching the federal ISR band are not type acceptance certification compliant and will not be used.

8. Family Radio Service (FRS) operations Prohibited.

The use of Family Radio Service (FRS) radios by CAP has always been, and will continue to be prohibited. FRS radios operate in the commercial portion of the radio spectrum this segment of the spectrum is under direct control of the Federal Communication Commission. Federal usage of this band is not compliant with National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) or Civil Air Patrol regulations. Illegal use is a direct violation of Code of Federal Regulations Title 47, volume 5, Part 80.

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